

SOFTWARE PROTECTION SYSTEM

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Inventor: TANAKA TOSHIKIYO

Applicant: NIPPON TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE

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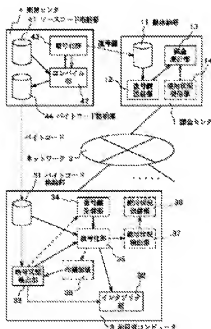
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Abstract of JP10161864

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a software protection system which can collect the rental of software in response to its using frequency by noticing the using function of the software and also can prevent illegal copies.

SOLUTION: The byte code that is obtained by compiling a source code is distributed to a user computer 3, and the computer 3 interprets the received byte code by an interpreter. In such a system, a charging center 1 connected to a network 2 is provided to cipher a part of the byte code as a cipher section and to hold a decoding key corresponding to the cipher section. The computer 3 includes a decoding key receiving part 34 which receives the decoding key from the center 1, a cipher section detection part 33 which detects the start and end of the cipher section in the distributed byte code, a decoding part 35 which decodes the byte code within the cipher section by means of the decoding key, and an interpreter part 32 which interprets the decoded byte code.



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